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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:) Attorney Docket No.: F-192
Mark Bresnan, et al.) Examiner: E. Cosimano
Serial No.: 09/628,496) Group Art Unit: 2161
Filed: July 28, 2000) Date: May 21, 2001

Title: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MAIL PIECE PRODUCTION UTILIZING A
DATA CENTER AND INTER-RELATED COMMUNICATION
NETWORKS**

**REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
By Assignee**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Declaration by Assignee

I, Michael E. Melton, Deputy General Counsel of Pitney Bowes Inc. ("Assignee"),
declare that

- I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the state of Connecticut
- The patentees' entire right, title and interest to U.S. Patent No. 5,873,073 entitled "Method and System for Mail Piece Production Utilizing A Data Center And Inter-Related Communication Networks" granted on February 16, 1999, was assigned by Mark Bresnan and Je H. Oh, by assignment dated October 31, 1996, to Pitney Bowes Inc., having a place of business at One Elmcroft Road, Stamford, Connecticut 06926-0700.

- The above assignment was recorded in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 24, 1996, at Reel 8397, Frame 0937. Pitney Bowes Inc. still maintains an undivided interest in the above mentioned patent.
- I believe said named inventors to be the original, first and part inventor of the subject matter that is described and claimed in the aforesaid letters patent and in the foregoing specification and for which invention Pitney Bowes solicits a reissue patent.
- The assignee owning an undivided interest in said original patent is Pitney Bowes Inc., and the assignee consents to the application for reissue. The undersigned is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.
- The Assignee offers to surrender the original U.S. Patent No. 5,873,073 upon issuance of a Notice of Allowability on subject reissue application.

Acknowledgement Of Review Of Papers And Duty Of Candor (37 C.F.R. §1.175)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, *Code of Federal Regulations*, §1.56. In compliance with this duty, an information disclosure statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 was filed in this reissue application.

Statement Of Inoperativeness Or Invalidity Of Original Patent (37 C.F.R. §1.175)

I believe the original patent to be partly inoperative or invalid by reason of (37 C.F.R. §1.175(a)(1)): the patentee claims less than the patentee had a right to claim in the patent. The foregoing error, which is being corrected, up to the time of the filing of this reissue declaration, arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicants. (37 C.F.R. §1.175(a)(2)).

The corroborating declarations of the inventors were filed in a declaration dated September 19 and 23, 2000.

Power of Attorney

I hereby appoint the following practitioners to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Ronald Reichman
Charles R. Malandra, Jr.
Robert E. Meyer

Registration Number 26,796
Registration Number 31,038
Registration Number 26,307

Declaration

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

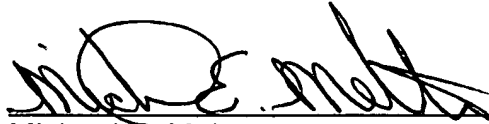
By Assignee Or Person Authorized To Sign On Behalf Of Assignee

Pitney Bowes Inc.
Name of Assignee

1 Elmcroft Road, Stamford, CT 06926-0700

Deputy General Counsel
Title of person authorized to sign on behalf of assignee

Assignment recorded in PTO on February 16, 1999, in Reel 8397, Frame 0937.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Melton", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael E. Melton